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NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND
02840

27 August 1979

Dear Stan,

It was certainly a pleasure to see you and Pat again, especially since you both looked so well and seemed in such good spirits. It is encouraging to witness enduring good humor and enthusiasm in those who bear such enormous burdens of public responsibility. In sum, I'm delighted to see that "they haven't gotcha down."

And thank you so much for including us in the delightful outing at Bailey's Beach. In addition to the lovely surroundings and delicious food and drink, it was great to reminisce with many of those who were with you when you started the new program at the War College. I think there is something special about being a part of the beginning of a venture like that, and we all seem to remember those early years most vividly no matter what the ensuing developments. You can be confidant and justly proud that the fundamentals of your original program still live on up here.

I'm sorry time didn't permit some racquet sports, though from Charlie Battaglia's remarks, perhaps I should be thankful I was thus spared a humiliation on the tennis courts. He said that you have been playing regularly and well; and I must confess that I have become so involved in squash that I have hardly gotten out on the tennis court this summer. But should you return in the fall or winter, let's try to work in some squash. I think I can still hold my own there, and I'm anxious to play someone closer to my own age than those eager young men in the junior course.

Speaking of the War College program, I believe that it is in very good shape. Strategy retains a healthy segment of fourteen weeks, expanded further back in history with a study of Renaissance war and statecraft, and up to the present with a week on detente and multipolarity. It also continues to be the most popular course. But I think Management and Naval Operations have their curricula in better shape than ever in the past, so they are providing us healthy competition. The impact of the elective program constituting 25% remains to be seen; it comes dangerously close to seriously diluting the core curriculum. But I think that this problem is at present offset by the utility and popularity of the program among students and faculty alike. And it does allow us to include some very sophisticated and useful courses in law, economics and strategy that we never seemed to be able to meld into the core.

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I hope you and Pat continue to find the job in Washington fulfilling and interesting. It is difficult for us to even partially appreciate the complexities of a bureaucracy such as the one you direct, but amid all the headaches, problems and criticism, you may be assured that there are a great many people rooting for you and wishing you every success in the tasks you face.

Thank you again for a grand reunion.

Sincerely,

Stansfield Turner
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